19 December 1991

TL39

Resolution For a Revision of East Timor Policy

To Prime Minister Miyazawa Kiichi,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Speaker of the House of Councillors,

Resolved by the Chofu City Council:

In March 1990 the City of Chofu adopted an "International Exchange and Peace City Declaration" and a "Resolution Calling for a Early Abolition of Apartheid in the Republic of South Africa." It is taking an international perspective and making timely appeals from its local assembly to the international community.

In 1975 Indonesia invaded East Timor, then in the process of achieving independence from Portugal, and some 200,000 East Timorese, approximately 30 percent of the population of 650,000, have died. The United Nations General Assembly has passed resolutions on East Timor eight times, rejecting Indonesia's annexation of East Timor and affirming the right of the East Timorese to self-determination and independence. Indonesia, however, has ignored these resolutions and is presently continuing its illegal occupation.

Newspapers and television have reported that "On November 12 Indonesian troops opened fire on mourners in Dili, East Timor, killing 100 people." We deplore this grave violation of human rights.

The Japanese Government, meanwhile, supplied Indonesia with some ¥170 billion in official development assistance (ODA) in 1991. This amount corresponds to the Indonesian defense budget, and such aid violates the four ODA guidelines linking aid to respect for human rights.

At a time when the United Nations and world public opinion is affirming the guaranteeing of the human rights of the East Timorese and the exercise of their right of self-determination, we call for the realization of the human rights of the East Timorese and their aspirations for peace in the international community. The Chofu City Council therefore strongly urges the Japanese Government to revise its policy on East Timor and carry out the following by way of playing an active role (in the issue).

1. To call on the Indonesian Government to respect the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and to withdraw from East Timor.
2. As a newly elected member of the United Nations Security Council, to call on the Indonesian Government at the United Nations to respect the right of self-determination of the people of East Timor.
3. In the light of the Japanese Government's four ODA guidelines, to make the granting of Japanese ODA to Indonesia conditional on the withdrawal of Indonesian troops from East Timor.